

MEWACS Overview

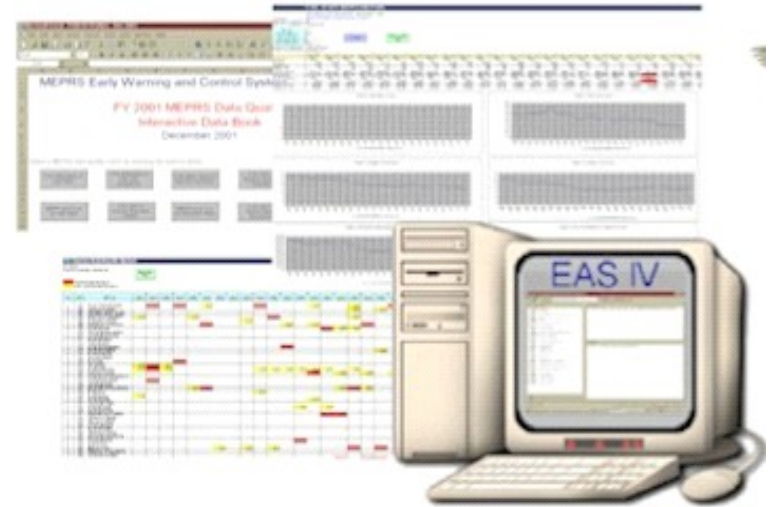
AUSA Conference

San Antonio, TX

29 June 2005

Herb Escobar
TRICARE Management Activity
MEPRS Program Office

- The MEPRS Early Warning and Control System (MEWACS) is an interactive data quality “feedback” tool developed by the MEPRS Management Improvement Group (MMIG) to proactively identify, investigate, resolve, or correct current MEPRS data anomalies in a timely manner using systematic, repeatable processes.



- MEWACS is intended for DQ managers, MEPRS personnel, Service or TMA-level personnel to facilitate data quality reviews, investigation, and analysis.
- www.meprs.info or www.tricare.osd.mil/ebc/rm_home/meprs

Monthly MEWACS Updates

- Interactive On-line
- Excel workbook (download)
- Executive Summary (download)

On-line Resources

- MEWACS User's Guide (definitions, algorithms, etc.)
- FCC and MTF listings
- Human Systems Interface (HSI) on-line assistance
- MEPRS learning resources (MADI, downloads, etc.)

All MEWACS data extracted monthly from the EAS IV Repository and M2 (WWR only)

Current MEWACS Metrics Include

- Reporting compliance and completion metrics
- Outlier and variance tests by MTF
- Longitudinal MEPRS data profiles
- WWR/EAS IV total visits comparison
- Expense allocation assessments
- Cost per visit and disposition detail

All metrics are interactive by Service, MTF,
and
3rd-level FCC

Reporting compliance and completion metrics

- Data extracted around 20th of every month
- EAS IV Repository “Load Dates” vs. “Transmission Dates”
- Excel Version:
 - Fiscal year completion percent
 - Current fiscal month reporting compliance
 - Year-to-date compliance percentage
 - Percent of MTFs with 3 or more late data submissions
- Interactive On-Line
 - Fiscal year completion percent
 - Current fiscal month reporting compliance

Outlier and Variance tests

- The **Outlier test** identifies MTFs with one or more data points differing significantly from historical averages
- The **Variance test** flags MTFs that demonstrate excessive data variation as compared to all MTFs
- Dispositions, Total Visits, Personnel Direct Expenses, Total Expenses, Available FTEs, and Assigned FTEs are evaluated against both criteria
- Enhancements planned for MEWACS 2.0 will eliminate the need for a separate Variance test
- **Statistical outliers do not always equal a Data Quality problem** – change in missions, large one-time expenses, etc. can trigger a “false positive”

Longitudinal MEPRS data profiles

- Includes up to 36 (Interactive On-line) or up to 24 fiscal months (Excel download) across key metrics:
 - Dispositions, Total Visits, Available FTEs, Assigned FTEs, Personnel Direct Expenses, Total Expenses, Cost per Disposition, Cost per Visit, Personnel Direct Expenses per Available FTE, and Personnel Direct Expenses per Assigned FTE
- Interactive On-Line and Excel MEWACS versions graph the data in different perspectives
- Interactive On-Line MEWACS highlights data points failing Outliers / Variance tests
- In Excel MEWACS, user MUST Select 1st-level FCC "A" or "B" for valid Cost per Disposition and Visit calculations

WWR/EAS IV total visits comparison

- Comparison of WWR visits vs. EAS IV by Reporting (Child) DMISID, including FBN visits
- WWR data is obtained from M2
- Percentage quantifies the difference between the values
- Data can be summarized by Fiscal Year, Service, MAJCOM, HSO, RMC, or Parent DMIS ID

Excel MEWACS includes a separate table listing facilities failing a 5% criterion

Expense allocation assessments

- Ancillary and Support expenses remaining after allocation across final accounts are shown
- Facilities with residual expenses of +/- \$1,000 are flagged in yellow; +/- \$10,000 are flagged in red
- Statistics show cumulative expenses remaining by Service and percent of MTF with residual expenses

Separate MEWACS reports show Service view and MTF detail by Ancillary and Support 3rd-Level FCC

Cost per visit and disposition

- Cost per Disposition and Visit are reported separately by 3rd-Level FCC and Fiscal Month
- Year-to-Date figures are calculated as the sum of expenses divided by dispositions or visits across fiscal months, not average of monthly cost per's
- Metric is sensitive to workload w/o expenses, and expenses w/o workload

Next generation MEWACS (2.0) will include RVUs and RWP cost by FCC

Interactive On-Line MEWACS

Pros

- Accessible through any web browser – anywhere
- Outlier/Variance metric hyper-linked to Data Profiles graphs
- Outlier/Variance data points highlighted in Data Profiles table
- No large files to download
- Up to 36 fiscal months available
- Additional MEPRS resources available at www.meprs.info

Cons

- TMA web server instability
- Page-load speed varies based server and internet traffic
- Must have an open internet connection
- Limited reporting completion/compliance statistics
- No 5% WWR outlier metric

Excel-based MEWACS

Pros

- Single-file download
- Not Internet-dependent after initial download
- WWR 5% outlier metric
- Expanded reporting compliance and completion statistics

Cons

- No Outlier/Variance hyperlinks or flags in Data Profiles table
- Excel Macros settings
- Large file to download (up to 20-Meg)
- Only up to 24 months of data
- Caution needed when using cost per's in Data Profiles table

MEWACS Future....

- MEWACS 2.0
 - Cost per RWP
 - RVU metrics
 - All data by Reporting DMIS ID (Child)
- Enhanced coordination and data exchange between DQMC and MEWACS

Q / A